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| LOUIS A BANKS, <i>et al.</i> ,            | ) |  |
|   | ) |  |
| Plaintiffs,                               | ) |  |
|   | ) |  |
| v.  | ) |  |
|   | ) |  |
| INSPIRED TEACHING SCHOOL, <i>et al.</i> , | ) |  |
|   | ) |  |
| Defendants.                               | ) |  |
|   | ) |  |

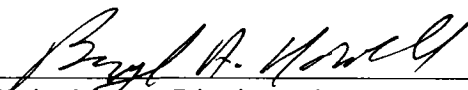
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|---|
| Case: 1:16-cv-00038 Jury Demand         |
| Assigned To : Unassigned                |
| Assign. Date : 1/8/2016                 |
| Description: Pro Se Gen. Civil (F Deck) |

This matter comes before the court on review of plaintiff Louis A. Banks' application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and his *pro se* civil complaint. The Court will grant the application and dismiss the complaint.

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Federal district courts have jurisdiction in civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws or treaties of the United States. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1331. In addition, federal district courts have jurisdiction over civil actions where the matter in controversy exceeds \$75,000, and the suit is between citizens of different states. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a). Notwithstanding the plaintiffs' citation to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, their claims do not arise under the Constitution; they are tort claims cognizable under District of Columbia law. Although the plaintiffs' claim ostensibly exceeds \$75,000, the plaintiffs fail to demonstrate diversity of citizenship because all of the parties appear to reside or conduct business in the District of Columbia. The Court therefore will dismiss the complaint for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

An Order consistent with this Memorandum Opinion is issued separately.

  
United States District Judge

DATE: 1/7/2016